

**International Task Force on Teachers for EFA**



**Minutes of the Steering Committee Meeting**

**Room VII**

**UNESCO**

**Paris**

**6 February 2012**

## **Introduction**

The meeting of the Steering Committee of the International Task Force on Teachers for EFA took place at UNESCO, Paris, on 6 February 2012. The meeting was co-chaired by Mr. Steve Passingham, European Commission, and Mr. Sumarna Surapranata, Republic of Indonesia.

In the absence of Mr. Qian Tang, ADG/ED, UNESCO, Mr. David Atchoarena, Director, Division of Teachers and Higher Education, and Acting Head of the International Task Force on Teachers for EFA Secretariat met with the Steering Committee members, in a private session prior to the commencement of the meeting (proceedings of this close-door meeting are therefore not available to the Secretariat for inclusion in this report)

### **Item 1: Opening of the meeting, adoption of the agenda & minutes of the previous Steering Committee meeting**

The co-chairs Mr. Steve Passingham, European Commission and Mr. Sumarna Surapranata, Republic of Indonesia, opened the meeting and welcomed the members of the Steering Committee. Thereafter, the participants introduced themselves.

The agenda was adopted after the items were discussed and approved by the Steering committee members.

After discussion, the members of the Steering Committee suggested the following amendments to the minutes of the previous Steering Committee meeting, September 2011, Bali, Indonesia:

- Deletion of the acronym “TEFAS” from the document;
- Deletion of Ghana (p.1 of the document) ) as one of the countries targeted for the study carried out by the Voluntary Service Overseas (VSO);
- Inclusion of information (p.2 of the document) related to the Education International (EI) policy statement issued at the EI World Teachers Congress in Cape Town, South Africa, July 2011, which reflects the participation of the Director-General of UNESCO and an exhibition of the Task Force Secretariat.

### *Conclusion and decisions*

Mr. Passingham (EC) concluded item 1 on the agenda by making the following points:

- The minutes of the previous Steering Committee meeting, September 2011, Bali, Indonesia to be amended as per suggestions from Steering Committee members;
- The Steering Committee welcomed UNESCO’s increased focus on teachers;
- UNESCO will share the information on the restructuring process that is currently underway with the Steering Committee members.

Note: The minutes of the previous Steering Committee meeting, September 2011, Bali, Indonesia were duly amended by the Secretariat and printed copies were distributed during the meeting (Annex 3).

## **Item 2: Report of Task Force activities conducted in 2011**

### ***Overview***

Mr. Atchoarena presented the activity report of the International Task Force on Teachers for EFA in a succinct PowerPoint presentation (Annex 4).

### ***Discussions***

- Members thanked the Secretariat for sending the report in advance in both working languages- EN and FR.
- Some members of the SC felt that the report was too descriptive and long and lacked an analytical perspective.
- It was therefore recommended that a more analytical approach be adopted in the future. Some members suggested that future reports include a chapter on outcomes, impacts, at levels of, policy and practice as well as lessons learned. To this end, a tool to assess the impact and outcomes of the Task Force activities could be considered.
- Mr. Singh (India), opined that the studies of policies and practices to address the EFA teacher gap that were carried out in six countries (Anglophone Africa and Asia) was one of the most useful activities of the Task Force. He further added that the Task Force should actively engage in coming up with ways to address the real needs and challenges that countries are facing with regard to issues like the provision of good quality teacher education material, quality assurance of teacher training in private institutes, use of ICTs in teacher education and the challenges of decentralisation.
- Mr. Sinyolo (EI) seconded Mr Singh's suggestion with regard to prioritising the needs of countries. He suggested that a needs assessment could be launched to identify individual country needs. This could allow for an efficient way to use the resources available. He further added that the Task Force should also deliberate over ways and means to extend technical and financial support at the country level.
- Mr. Shrestha (VSO) also expressed the usefulness of the case studies as a way to maximize impact on the ground. He also pointed out that some countries or even the local UNESCO office were not notified and involved in the data collection process for the studies. He made his claim plausible by citing the example of Vietnam. He further recommended that in the future, the Secretariat could consider informing and contacting countries and partners such as Education International (EI) or VSO, prior to the commencement of the studies. This could enable maximum support in the data collection process.
- Mr Diouf (Senegal) expressed his appreciation for choosing Senegal as one of the countries for the francophone African study. He further added that the workshop that was held in Dakar, Senegal, 15-16 December 2011, allowed the participation of technical and financial partners as well as members of civil society. Nine countries were able to share experiences and good practices. He pointed out that teacher issues were raised in all these countries and it was found that the difficulties and problems they faced were similar. He concluded by saying that a number of countries expressed interest in the case studies and expressed their need for support to address teacher-related issues.

- Mr. Ratteree (ILO) inquired about the follow-up from the consultative expert meeting that was held in Paris in October 2011. Since the ILO, which he represents, was not invited to this meeting, he questioned the criteria for selection of Task Force members to meetings and other events.

### ***Conclusion and decisions***

- Mr. Atchoarena concluded by stating that the Task Force should not be seen as a separate entity but as an EFA initiative that coordinates the support of members of the EFA movement. The Secretariat has an important role to play in the follow-up of activities; however, each member of the Task Force has an equally important role to play in advancing the teacher agenda through active participation in the planned activities.
- With regard to addressing the needs of countries, Mr. Atchoarena believed that the Secretariat is moving in the right direction. For instance, a wide diversity of experts from different countries and ministries were engaged in an open dialogue at the Dakar workshop. This led to decisions about main issues to be covered and identification of countries to be considered for the studies.
- Ms Fosen recommended that the section on 'Achievements and results' on pp. 18-20 of the activity report could be re-written to highlight the outcomes and impacts of the Task Force's works. She also recommended adjusting the summary at the beginning of the report to reflect a deeper analysis of outcomes. This would ensure the link between the activities and results.

### **Item 3: Work plan for 2012 and reporting arrangements**

#### ***Overview***

Mr. David Atchoarena presented the planned activities for 2012 in a PowerPoint presentation (Annex 5)

#### ***Discussions***

- Some members opined that though the plan of activities is well-organized and relevant, it seemed ambitious given the financial and human resource and time constraints. It seemed, however feasible, if conceived as, and implemented with, the cooperation of relevant partners.
- There was general consensus that the table at the end of the work plan for 2012 was very useful in providing an overview of the activities including the timeline. It was suggested that the table should be revised to include information about costs, partners and outcomes to provide more clarity.
- It was also suggested that the work plan should illustrate how individual activities reinforce each other and how they could lead to the achievement of targets.
- Mr. Sinyolo (EI) suggested that the Task Force could consider developing a teacher management policy framework. The framework could be adapted by countries according to the national contexts and realities.
- Mr Passingham (EC) requested clarity over the linkages between the Global Partnership for Education (GPE) and Task Force activities. He also wished to know whether there are

links between the GPE and the initiative led by the French government on financing education.

- Mr Atchoarena explained that the work of the Task Force could be linked to the GPE in terms of country level innovations and initiatives. This would include mobilizing new resources for teachers as well as coming up with innovative mechanisms to address issues like the timely payment of teachers' salaries. He pointed out that some governments have difficulties to ensure that teachers receive their salaries on time.

He also clarified that the Agence Française du Développement (AFD) will be a supervising entity for the newly established Global and Regional Activities (GPA) of the GPE.

- Mr Shrestha (VSO) suggested that communities of practice could be built based on the studies on innovative financing mechanisms for teacher-related issues; this could facilitate South-South cooperation to address the policy and capacity gaps.
- Ms Mannathoko (UNICEF) highlighted that the Bali policy dialogue forum that was organised by the Task Force in September 2011, has propelled countries to demand that UNICEF develop a study with regard to the issue of equity and teachers.
- Ms Fosen (Norway) stated that the Secretariat should record this development as an important outcome of the Bali policy dialogue forum.
- Ms Mannathoko (UNICEF) pointed out that the domain related to the quality of teachers who teach marginalized children is poorly researched. She suggested that a global review of literature on equity and teacher issues could be carried out in conjunction with partners such as Education International and VSO. Such a study could provide evidence for policy development.
- Ms Gordon (Jamaica) suggested that the activities for 2012 should endeavour to address various aspects of teacher management.
- Mr Shrestha (VSO) underscored the importance of the role of the Secretariat to collect information of activities of members and examine if there is any synergy which contributes to the work of the Task Force. Mr. Shrestha offered to spend two days with the Secretariat to discuss the communication strategy.
- Mr Passingham (EC) enquired if the Secretariat was aware of the World Bank programme on teacher policies that is currently underway.
- Mr Atchoarena explained that the World Bank initiative 'System Assessment and Benchmarking for Education Results' (SABER) is an initiative that helps countries systematically examine the performance of their education systems to achieve learning for all and to provide international benchmarks. Teacher policy is one of the elements that is currently being assessed. UNESCO is also working with the World Bank on the SABER initiative in Asia via the UNESCO Bangkok office.
- Mr. Atchoarena highlighted UNESCO's work related to the development of the quality framework which will help countries to assess their performance of in different areas of education. The framework will be tested in several countries soon. Mr Edem Adubra (incoming head of the TF Secretariat) has worked on the teacher dimension of this tool.
- Mr Ratteree endorsed Mr Sinyolo's proposal of developing a policy framework

### ***Conclusion and decisions***

- Members requested the Secretariat to revise the table of activities for 2012 to include: information about costs; information about which agency/country have the main responsibility for each activity; expected outcomes for each activity.

### **Item 4: Co-chairs for 2012**

#### ***Decision***

Members agreed that for the first half of 2012, the European Commission and the Republic of Indonesia will continue to remain co-chairs.

The issue of new co-chairs will be revisited at the next Steering Committee meeting in May 2012 after the evaluation of the Task Force is completed.

### **Item 5: Update on the Evaluation of the International Task Force on Teachers for EFA**

#### ***Overview***

Mr David Atchoarena presented a succinct update of the evaluation of the International Task Force on Teachers for EFA, which included the development of the Terms of Reference, the choice of the consultant and the methodology. He also provided information with regard to the timeline of the evaluation, especially the completion of the draft and final versions of the report.

#### ***Discussions***

- Ms Fosen (Norway) suggested that the Secretariat could consider organizing a meeting after the completion of the first draft of the evaluation report where the evaluator could present the findings. This could help donors to start discussing the question of the continuity of the Task Force. She opined that the May meeting may be too late. She thought it would be a good idea to include potential donors like the World Bank in the evaluation.
- Mr Passingham (EC) suggested that within a week after the release of the first draft, a meeting among Steering Committee Members could be held at UNESCO HQ to provide feedback. Members who are unable to attend the meeting could participate through the Internet.
- Mr. Shrestha (VSO) suggested that interpretation facilities should be made available when the first draft is discussed.
- Mr. Atchoarena told the members that the list of interviewees is currently being finalised. Though he appreciated the idea of including major organizations working on teacher issues, he explained that discussing the draft with non Task Force SC members would be premature.

### ***Decisions and conclusions***

- The Steering Committee welcomed the evaluation.
- The methodology and timeline were duly noted.
- All Steering Committee members would be contacted by the evaluator.
- A first draft is expected to be issued in March. A meeting of all Steering Committee members will be arranged by the Secretariat at UNESCO, Paris, soon after the draft is released.
- Members who cannot attend the meeting could provide written comments.
- The final report will be shared in April 2012.

### **Item 6: What strategy to ensure the continuity of the International Task Force on Teachers for EFA up to 2015?**

#### ***Overview***

Mr. Atchoarena reminded members that the Task Force was established to ensure that the teacher dimension was given its due attention in the achievement of the EFA goals. However, the agreed timeframe for funding will cover the Task Force operations only until the end of 2012. If the Task Force is to continue to function until 2015, or beyond, additional political and financial engagement are required from partners.

He added that UNESCO also plays an active role in renewing and enlarging the political and financial support to the Task Force. It is also the responsibility of the Task Force members to garner support for the Task Force. Organized engagement of the members of the Steering Committee members is required, in terms of representing their regions, in particular, Africa, Asia, Latin America and the Caribbean.

Mr. Atchoarena brought the members' attention to the question of whether the modality and the mandate of the Task Force should remain the same or be modified after 2012. The results of the evaluation would determine the future course of action.

#### ***Discussions***

- Mr. Passingham (EC) opined that the results of the evaluation would serve as a determining factor to decide the future course of action. A more substantive discussion about the future of the Task Force could be carried out during the next Steering Committee meeting in May 2012. However, he suggested that internal discussions could be held after the first draft of the evaluation report is released in March.
- Mr. Diouf (Senegal) pointed out that the doubts over the continuity of the Task Force could undermine current efforts of the Task Force in many developing countries. He recommended that measures be taken promptly to ensure continuation.

- Ms Fosen (Norway) explained it usually takes three months or more to secure funding. To this effect, a timeline of activities of the Task Force post 2012 is urgently needed.
- Mr. Diouf (Senegal) suggested that the Task Force should prepare a document detailing the work plan until 2015. The document should be developed done after the evaluation is completed but before the Steering Committee meeting in May. This would help the Steering Committee to discuss the future of the Task Force in more concrete terms.
- Ms Gordon (Jamaica) opined that the support for the Task Force should be requested until 2015 irrespective of the evaluation results.
- Mr. Singh (India) expressed his concern over the current situation and thought that the issue of teachers should not be subject to such uncertainty.
- Mr. Passingham (EC) suggested that the tentative planning for the future can be done as soon as possible without waiting for the discussions to be held during the Steering Committee meeting in May 2012. He shed light on the current financial situation in Europe and highlighted the importance of the evaluation to be able to make a case for further funding of the Task Force.
- Mr. Singh agreed with Mr.Passingham's comments, however, he opined that short-term solutions amount to a waste of time as they do ensure the fruition of any projects. Donors should consider providing additional support at least for a few years. Only longer term programmes make a difference.
- Mr.Passingham (EC) clarified that it was highly undesirable to work in short-term periods of time. He hoped that the case for a reasonable timeframe (a medium term) for funding will be argued for in the EC in the future.
- Ms Fosen (Norway) reiterated the relevance of the Task Force to the global agenda on education as a crucial factor for its continuity until 2015 possibly beyond. It was suggested that a case has to be made with regard to the role of teachers and the Task Force in the post-2015 education agenda which include themes like higher education, technical education and the quality of education. She recommended that some time should be dedicated for brainstorming on how the Task Force could relate to these themes for them to be considered relevant in the years to come.
- There was general consensus around the idea of sending a letter to the GMR Director and the advisory board to consider focusing on the theme of teacher-related issues. This could help in building momentum for support to teachers.

### ***Decisions and Conclusions***

- It was decided that more in-depth discussions around the issue of the continuity of the Task Force would be held after the completion of the evaluation.
- It was also agreed that a discussion about the contribution of the Task Force to the broader EFA agenda till and beyond 2015 should begin right away. It is imperative that the Task Force adopts a strategic approach to ensure its continuity.



- A letter signed by the co-chairs should be sent to the GMR advisory board in support of dedicating the 2013 report to teacher issues.

## **Item 7: Next Task Force and Steering Committee Meetings**

### *Overview*

Mr. Atchoarena announced that the next Task Force and Steering Committee meetings will be held on 28 May 2012 in New Delhi, India, back-to-back with the conference and E9 meeting.

### *Discussions*

- Mr. Diouf (Senegal) proposed that the Secretariat could consider sharing a calendar for 2012 that would capture all important meetings, events and deadlines.
- Mr. Adubra requested suggestions from the Steering Committee members to address the question of how best to extend support to the country focal points in advancing their work on teacher-related issues. He also expressed the importance of sharing information in advance of events and meetings with the focal points to maximise impact.
- Mr Atchoarena informed the members that the Secretariat is currently in the process of updating the list of focal points. The updated list will be shared with the Steering Committee members shortly.

### *Decisions and Conclusions*

Mr Passingham proposed that the Steering Committee members could provide suggestions on how best to support the focal points in their work related to teacher issues. He requested a written proposal from the Secretariat.

## **Item 8: AOB**

- Ms Fosen (Norway) suggested that Steering Committee members could identify areas they are interested in or have the expertise in. Smaller discussion groups could be formed to focus and provide suggestions with regard to the activities elaborated in the work plan for 2012.
- Mr. Sinyolo (Senegal) announced that the Global Network on Teacher Quality and Effectiveness will be launched shortly by Education International. This network will serve as a network of networks and a centre for teacher excellence. EI will share information with the Steering Committee members through the Secretariat. He encouraged all members to participate actively in this initiative.

## **Item 9: Conclusions and closing**

- Mr. Steve Passingham (EC) closed the meeting and thanked the Steering Committee members for their active participation. He also thanked the Secretariat for the preparation and execution of the meeting. He welcomed Mr. Edem Adubra as the new Head of the Secretariat.
- Mr. Adubra extended his thanks to all members of the Steering Committee in welcoming him as the new Head of the Task Force Secretariat. He further added that he counted on

the support of the Steering Committee members in the implementation of the work plan for 2012.

- Mr. Atchoarena expressed his thanks to Mr. Passingham and Mr. Surapranata for co-chairing the meeting. He also thanked the members of the Steering Committee for their constructive comments and suggestions.
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## Principle Recommendations, Conclusions and Decisions

### Recommendations

1. The Task Force on Teachers for EFA should adopt a strategic approach to ensure that the various activities mutually reinforce each other and lead to agreed outcomes;
2. The Task Force on Teachers for EFA may consider the development of a teacher management policy framework for adaptation and use by countries and other stakeholders in its work plan for 2013 (Pending continuation of the initiative and availability of resources beyond 2012);
3. As part of its work at country level, the Secretariat may consider trying to link with donors and partners at country level and collaborate with major funding sources for education and supporting networks to endeavour to close the gap for the provision of good quality teachers to enable the achievement of EFA goals.

### Decisions and Conclusions

1. Steering Committee meeting minutes from Bali to be amended as per suggestions from Steering Committee members.
2. The Steering Committee welcomes the focus of UNESCO on teacher-related issues.
3. UNESCO will share the information on the restructuring process that is currently underway with the Steering Committee members.
4. The members of the Steering Committee welcomed the 2011 Report and confirmed the results of the work of the Task Force. The Steering Committee members request the Secretariat to rewrite pages 18-20 (Achievements and results) of the Report of activities 2011 and adjust the summary at the beginning of the report to reflect a deeper analysis of outcomes. This would ensure the link between the activities and results.
5. The members of the Steering Committee welcomed the draft plan for 2012. The members would like to have a revised version of the 2012 planned activities document which would include: information about costs; information about which agency/country have the main responsibility for each activity; expected outcomes for each activity.
6. The Steering Committee members debated strategies for ensuring continuation of the Task Force up unto 2015. The following was decided:
  - The work of the Task Force is so important that it should be considered how it can be continued regardless of short-term funding;
  - While discussions about how the work of the Task Force will be taken forward must continue once the assessment has been presented, requests for funding must be done as soon as possible to meet funding countries' budget cycles;
  - The Task Force must continue to be relevant for the greater EFA/education community. To this end, the Task Force will:
    - *contribute to the debate with regard to the post 2015 development & education agenda;*
    - *Task Force members will lobby through their representatives on the GMR panel that decides the themes of the reports;*

- *send a letter to the Global Monitoring Report Director and Advisory Board to ensure focus is kept on “teachers” in the theme for the 2013 Global Monitoring Report.*



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## Annex I

### International on Teachers for Education for All

#### Steering Committee Meeting

6 February 2012

Room VII

UNESCO  
7, Place de Fontenoy  
75007 Paris

#### AGENDA

9:30-10.00	Private session with Mr. Qian Tang, ADG/ED, UNESCO
10.00-11.30	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Opening of the meeting, adoption of the agenda &amp; of the minutes of the previous Steering Committee meeting: Co-chairs</li> <li>▪ Report of Task Force activities conducted in 2011: Secretariat</li> </ul>
11.30- 11.45	Coffee/Tea Break
11:45-13:00	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Work plan for 2012 and reporting arrangements: Secretariat</li> <li>▪ Co-chairs for 2012 : Group discussion</li> <li>▪ Update on the Evaluation of the International on Teachers for EFA: Secretariat</li> </ul>
13.00-14.30	Lunch
14.30- 16.30	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ What strategy to ensure the continuity of the International Task Force on Teachers for EFA up to 2015? : Group discussion</li> <li>▪ Next Task Force and Steering Committee Meetings: Co-chairs</li> <li>▪ AOB</li> <li>▪ Conclusions and closing: Co-chairs</li> </ul>



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## Annex II

### International Task Force on Teachers for Education for All

#### Steering Committee Meeting

6 February 2012

Room VII

#### List of Participants

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6. Indonesia

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7. Jamaica

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9. Senegal

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10. UNESCO HQ

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11. VSO  
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12. UNICEF

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**Observers:**

13. Republic of  
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**Mr. Gogot Suharwoto**  
Head of Division for Program Planning & Budget

**Ms. Poppy Dewi Puspitawati**  
Deputy Director for Teachers and Educational Personnel for Junior  
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14. Delegations

**Mrs. Katrin Fohmann**  
Representative of the Permanent Delegation of Germany to UNESCO

**Mr. Dankert Vedeler**  
Deputy Permanent Delegate, Permanent Delegation of Norway to  
UNESCO

15. UNESCO

**Ms. Marie-Paul Roudil**  
Head of UNESCO Liaison Office in Brussels and UNESCO  
Representative to the European Union

**Ms. Margarida Tor**  
**Mr. Kristof Vandenberghe**

16. International  
Task Force on  
Teachers for  
EFA Secretariat

**Mr. Francisco Komlavi Seddoh (Consultant)**  
**Ms. Shivali Lawale**  
**Ms. Aminatou Diagne**  
**Ms. Aurora Sze Ming Cheung**  
**Ms. Makeda Yohannes**



## Annex 3

Revised version as per suggestions by SC members



*International Task Force on Teachers for Education For All (EFA)*

### Minutes of the Steering Committee Meeting

9.00 am – 2.00 pm

15 September 2011, Bali, Indonesia

#### 1. Introduction and adoption of the agenda

The Meeting of the Steering Committee of the International Task Force on Teachers for EFA took place in Bali on 15 September 2011. The Steering Committee was chaired by the two co-chairs, Mr Steve Passingham (European Commission) and Mr Ananto Kusuma Seta (Republic of Indonesia).

Mr Steve Passingham opened the meeting, followed by an introduction of the participants of the meeting. (e.g. Annex I). The meeting agenda (Annex II) was discussed and adopted with the addition of item 8 (arrangement for the next Steering Committee Meeting in 2012).

#### 2. The progress report of the Task Force activities from January to September 2011

**Mr David Atchoarena**, Director of the Division for Planning and Development of Education Systems, presented the activity report of the Secretariat of the International Task Force on Teachers for EFA (Annex III). He introduced the Task Force members who were directly involved in the activities to provide additional remarks, comments, and suggestions.

**Mr Djibril Ndiaye Diouf**, Africa Focal Point in the Steering Committee, provided additional remarks and suggestions in regard to the Validation Workshop (Accra, Ghana, 20-21 July 2011) for the study entitled “What Makes Effective Policies on Teachers”, conducted in Anglophone sub-Saharan countries, such as Ghana, South Africa, Uganda, and Nigeria. A comprehensive report was greatly appreciated by the concerned countries and considered very helpful to improve teacher management, teacher training, and teacher recruitment policies and strategies. Due to a reliability and accuracy issue on some of the reported data, the participants requested further research in order to retrieve more recent data and eventually additional information in collaboration with the concerned countries. It was also suggested that the future studies should be more participative engaging countries in the conception and the implementation processes.

**Mr Purna Shrestha** from the Voluntary Service Overseas (VSO) elaborated the plan of a study on gender balance in the teaching profession, which is in process in collaboration with the Secretariat of the International Task Force on Teachers for EFA. This study, coordinated by VSO, puts emphasis on gender balance in the teaching profession. The countries targeted by this study are Cameroon and Rwanda where qualified researchers will do the work. This study is made in a joint partnership between VSO, UNESCO, and International Task Force on Teachers for EFA Secretariat and other partners.

**Mr Dennis Sinyolo** from Education International (EI) expressed his appreciation of the International Task Force on Teachers for EFA Secretariat participation in the EI World Teachers Congress in Cape Town, South Africa, 22 – 26 July 2011. He mentioned the

successful joint organization of the exhibition between UNESCO and the International Task Force on Teachers for EFA.

The Education International (EI) world Congress had an extensive debate on education and teacher issues, culminating in the adoption of an EI education policy statement defining the future of the teaching profession.

The Director General of UNESCO, Ms Irina Bokova, addressed congress delegates stressing the importance of teachers, while Mr. Qian Tang, the UNESCO Assistant Director-General, participated in a special panel discussion focusing on the new EI education policy statement. The participation of International Task Force on Teachers for EFA Secretariat allowed the congress delegates to get more familiar with the activities of the International Task Force on Teachers for EFA.

**Mr Gogot Suharwoto** from International Task Force on Teachers for EFA Secretariat reported on the participation and contribution to the Regional Seminar on Quality Teachers in Seoul, Republic of Korea. The theme of this conference was “Quality Teachers and Financing”. The result of this seminar was presented by the representative of UNESCO Bangkok during the Bali Forum. He also presented the progress of redesigning the Task Force website, which has new interface, new features, and upgrades, to the Steering Committee members. Feedback and advice were received from the Steering Committee. *Purna Shrestha proposed his support to the development of the website*

**Mr Edem Adubra** from UNESCO described the involvement of International Task Force on Teachers for EFA Secretariat during the Pan African Conference on Teachers Education and Development (African Union), Lomé, April 2011. As a part of the Task Force agenda on addressing policy issues, it was possible for ministers from different African countries to participate this conference. The conference was successful and African Union Commission recommended organizing it more regularly and bringing the current issues of the African continent to the decision makers. Edem also reported on the preparation of World Teachers Day with key partners such as ILO, EI, UNICEF and UNDP including the Task Force contribution. The theme for 2011 World Teachers Day is “Teachers for Gender Equality”.

**Bill Ratteree** from ILO presented the CEART activities specifically on the statutory meeting; he proposed the International Task Force on Teachers for EFA Secretariat *involvement on the next CEART meeting* to be held in the fall of 2012 in Geneva. The modalities for the Task Force participation will be discuss with the CEART Secretariat.

### **3. Workplan for the second semester 2011: Secretariat**

The Secretariat presented the workplan for the second half of the year 2011, September to December 2011. Again, members of the Steering Committee directly involved with the activity were invited to provide more information and guidance on how the International Task Force on Teachers for EFA Secretariat should proceed with the planned activities which are the following:

- (i) Study of policies and practices to address the EFA teacher gap in French speaking Africa and Arab countries
- (ii) Review of FTI endorsed plans with a focus on teachers (preliminary stage)
- (iii) Review of the M&E framework with a focus on teachers (preliminary stage)
- (iv) Contribution to World Teachers Day
- (v) Experts meeting for the preparation of country level support (October 2011)

**Mr Atchoarena** developed the Task Force Action Plan up to the end of 2011 (September – December). He emphasized the preparation of the Experts Meeting on Country Support, planned for October 2011. It will examine a concept note on the country support and its

modalities, and will accompany both a sector dialogue for a better consideration of teachers in the Sector Plans and the support from donors. This involvement could be accompanied by a technical support for national capacity building on specific issues such as the development of Information Systems for Teacher Management, identified as a priority area by the International Task Force on Teachers for EFA.

An important dimension of this country support is the articulation with the Teacher Training Initiative for Sub-Saharan Africa (TTISSA). Discussions are already under way with countries that are well advanced in conducting the comprehensive analysis of the teachers issues using the TTISSA Methodological Guide. There is now a possibility to articulate support through the Task Force to implement some of the directions and the recommendations that emerge from the analysis and also from the consultations with all the stakeholders in the teachers area at country level.

**Mr David Atchoarena** reported on a meeting with the Head of the EFA-FTI initiative in relation to a preliminary stage on indicators that focus on teachers. This work could involve an analysis of teacher components in endorsed Education Sector Plans and an articulation with the new GPE/FTI monitoring and evaluation framework and strategy. Later in September, UNESCO will host a final meeting to review the new framework and, in this context, International Task Force on Teachers for EFA Secretariat will seek to ensure that the teacher dimension is given adequate attention.

#### **4. Assessment of activities and performance**

The Steering Committee recommended to the Secretariat:

- Work closely with high profile, independent education or development experts in knowledge of teachers to give direction/leadership and organization with the Secretariat work and report to SC.
- To link with other networks and organizations working on teachers and work more closely with the Joint ILO/UNESCO Committee of Experts (CEART) as specified in TF TORs,
- To reinforce the internal communication with regards to the linguistic diversity; the documents should be in English and in French. Ensure that the working documents are circulated in both languages,
- To provide a list of members of the Task Force with their contact details, as well as their focal points of each country,
- To define the format and the modalities to organize the Steering Committee Meetings,
- To discuss the agenda of each meeting with the members of the Steering Committee (by email)
- To send the working documents to the members of the Steering Committee at least 15 days before each meeting,
- To include the following points in the format and especially in the agenda of the meeting: Status of completion of previous recommendations, technical and financial report, perspectives, and actions required on each agenda item.

#### **5. Proposed directions for 2012**

Steering Committee members have given their suggestions (compiled as annex IV) in regard to the 2012 work plan however the work plan will be adjusted after the evaluation of the second year is completed.

- **Communication strategy (website)**

The new design of the website was presented. Several suggestions, including the updating of the website and, the organization of the layout were made. The Database of the Stocktaking study will be uploaded shortly. VSO offered assistance for the website management.

- **Matters arising**

Steering Committee members emphasized the need to have the agenda of the meetings set and sent in advance, as well as to receive reports in good time.

- **Evaluation of activities and performance As planned in the ToR of the Task Force, the Steering Committee requested that a comprehensive assessment of activities and performance be conducted. The SC established a core team to elaborate ToRs.** The remit should be comprehensive, including focus on activities, performance, and ways of working including an assessment of options for the future.

The assessment/evaluation should be conducted by reviewers who are independent of the SC Membership. An independent Consultant should be engaged to carry out the evaluation

A small team is formed to prepare the Terms of Reference for the evaluation to be conducted. The members of the small team are;

1. Winsome Gordon ( Jamaica)
2. Dennis Sinyolo (Education International)
3. Changu Mannatoko (UNICEF)
4. Edem Adubra (TED/ UNESCO)
5. Julia Napoli (France)
6. Djibril Ndiaye Diouf (Senegal)

UNESCO is expected to circulate a draft ToR by the end of October. IOS will be consulted on the draft ToR.

In addition to the small team, the Secretariat, David Atchoarena and Gerd-Hanne will be in copy of email communication.

## **6. Questions, comments, suggestions and matters arising during the meeting:**

- The limitation on information sharing between International Task Force on Teachers for EFA Secretariat and the members of the Task Force.
- Communication; internally and externally
- The active involvement of all members of the Steering Committee as part of the Task Force in providing advocacy
- The invitation to the Task Force to join the Global Network on Teachers Quality and Effectiveness
- The structure of the minutes should be drafted in a way that makes it easy to see the suggestions, recommendations and the follow up actions needed.
- International Task Force on Teachers for EFA Secretariat needs to strengthen the links with other stakeholders for future activities.
- The need for website improvement, and offered of assistance from the VSO.
- India confirmed its invitation to host a Teachers Task Force Conference in 2012.

## **7. Strengthening the Task Force Secretariat**

### **• Staffing and Management**

The Steering Committee members expressed deep concerns about the leadership issue within the Secretariat of the Task Force. They urged UNESCO to take a decision without further delay regarding the Head of the Secretariat position and insisted that interim arrangements cannot be sustained. They also requested to be informed of the settlement of the matter as soon as possible.

Indonesia is considering the replacement of the seconded staff.

The Secretariat informed the Steering Committee that a program specialist at P3 level is being recruited to reinforce the team.

### **• The support from the donor**

- France expressed its renewed engagement in the Task Force initiative and indicated that possibilities to further support the Task Force Secretariat will be explored.
- Germany expressed its continued engagement and indicated that the nature and extent of a possible future support will be determined once the ongoing restructuring of German international cooperation architecture is completed.
- Norway will decide its future financial support to the Task Force secretariat after the assessment of the Task Force program is completed.
- The Government of Republic of Indonesia will continue support to the secretariat of the Task Force. The staff member seconded from Indonesia is leaving at the end of September 2011. A replacement is foreseen.

### **• Next Task Force and Steering Committee meeting**

The next Task Force and Steering Committee meeting are proposed to take place in January 2012. The Steering Committee members may decide to meet earlier on, if it is considered necessary. Furthermore, the members tasked to oversee the comprehensive assessment will maintain communication as appropriate.

## **8. Conclusion and Closing**

The following decisions were made:

- Small team of the Steering Committee members (see point 5) will draft the Terms of Reference for the comprehensive assessment of the Task Force programs and activities shortly. The draft will be shared with the rest of the Steering Committee members for feedback and comments. An independent consultant will be recruited to conduct the evaluation.
- The compilations of suggestions from the Steering Committee will be sent to the Steering Committee members.

Mr. Steve Passingham closed the meeting and thanked Steering Committee members for attending and for the constructive discussions.

Annex 4

**International Task Force on Teachers for EFA**  
**Steering Committee Meeting**  
**Report of Activities 2011**



**6 February 2012**  
**UNESCO**  
**Paris**

# Report of activities for 2011



# Coordination of international efforts and advocacy to fill the teacher gap

Collection and sharing of information, experience & good practice on teacher issues

- *Contribution to a UIS teacher training taxonomy, January 2011*
- *Website improvement and expansion*



# Coordination of international efforts and advocacy to fill the teacher gap

## Contribution & participation in major international events

- *Working Group on EFA, 2-3 February 2011, UNESCO HQ, Paris*
- *Pan-African Conference on Teacher Education and Development, 13-15 April, 2011, Lome, Togo*
- *World Congress of the Education International (EI), 22-26 July 2011, Cape Town, South Africa*
- *World Teachers' Day, October 2011, UNESCO, Paris*

# Coordination of international efforts and advocacy to fill the teacher gap

## Task Force & Steering Committee meetings

- *Steering Committee Meetings, January & Sept. 2011*
- *Task Force Meetings, January & Sept. 2011*

# Addressing the policy gap

## Broadening and sharing the knowledge base and experience

- *Validation workshop for studies on policies and practices to address the EFA teacher gap in Anglophone African countries, Accra, Ghana, July 2011*
- *Study of policies and practices to address the EFA teacher gap in countries in Asia, 2011*
- *Validation workshops for studies on policies and practices to address the EFA teacher gap for countries in Asia, November 2011*
- *Workshop to discuss the possibility of carrying out studies on policies and practices to address the EFA teacher gap in countries in sub-Saharan Africa, Dakar, Senegal, December 2011*

# Addressing the policy gap

## Pre-conferences, Conferences, Policy Dialogue Forums and context-specific meetings

- *Consultative Expert Meeting, October 2011, UNESCO, Paris*
- *Third Policy Dialogue Forum on “Ensuring Equity in Country Policies and Practices for Providing Quality Teachers toward Achieving the EFA Goals by 2015” and Steering Committee Meeting, 13-15 September 2011, Bali, Indonesia*
- *Conference on “Teachers for EFA in Africa: Collaborative Action to Address the Teacher Gap”, Steering Committee and Task Force meetings, 19-20 January 2011, Nairobi, Kenya*

# Addressing the capacity & financial gaps

## Support to Member States

- *Conceptualisation and detailed implementation plan of project*
- *Identification of five countries for Phase I*
- *Alignment of project with the Global Partnership Education*

## Achievements and results

- *Strengthening of coordination of international efforts to fill the teacher gap*
- *Development and reinforcement of appropriate policies, strategies and plans to address the policy gap with regard to teacher for EFA*
- *Providing appropriate staffing to the 'Teachers for EFA' Secretariat*
- *Organizing Task Force meetings ensuring an adequate number of participants from the South*



**Thank you!**

Annex 5

# International Task Force on Teachers for EFA

## Steering Committee Meeting

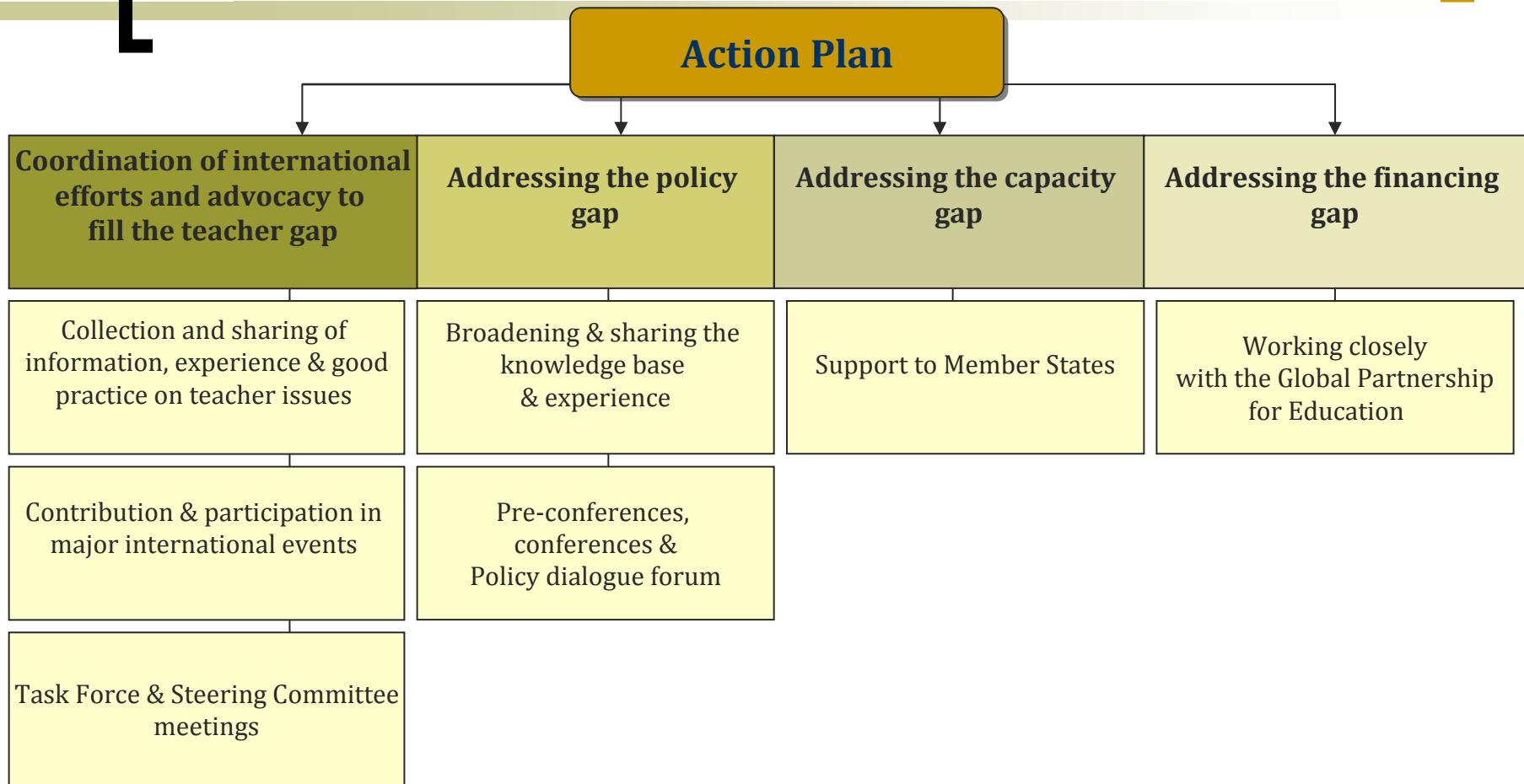
Planned Activities for 2012



**6 February 2012**  
**UNESCO**  
**Paris**



# Planned activities for 2012



## **Coordination of international efforts and advocacy to fill the teacher gap**

**Collection and sharing of information, experience & good practice on teacher issues**

- *Study on “Stocktaking of Major Programmes by International Partners”*
- *Education seminar for validating the study on “Stocktaking of Major Programmes by International Partners», April 2012, Brussels, Belgium*
- *Research on gender equality in teaching and education management in collaboration with VSO*
- *Study to be carried out in collaboration with ADEA*
- *Study to be carried out by the Task Force in close collaboration with the ILO*
- *Conference of the Committee of Experts on the Application of ILO/UNESCO Recommendations on Teachers (CEART), October 2012, Geneva, Switzerland*
- *Website improvement and expansion*

# Coordination of international efforts and advocacy to fill the teacher gap

## Contribution & participation in major international events

- *ADEA Triennial on education and training systems for sustainable development in Africa, Ouagadougou, Burkina Faso, February 2012*
- *Exhibition during UNESCO Executive Board meetings, February 2012*
- *E-9 Ministerial Review Meeting, June 2012*
- *Global Education for All meeting, October 2012*
- *Contribute to the World Teachers Day 2012 Event, October 2012*

# Coordination of international efforts and advocacy to fill the teacher gap

## Task Force & Steering Committee meetings

- *Steering Committee Meetings, February & October 2012*
- *Task Force Meetings, May & October 2012*
- *Consultative meeting for specific issues concerning Task Force activities*

# Addressing the policy gap

## Broadening and sharing the knowledge base and experience

- *Study of policies and practices to address the EFA teacher gap in francophone Sub-Saharan Africa and the Arab States regions, February-April 2012*
- *Validation workshops for the regional studies on policies and practices to address the EFA teacher gap for francophone Sub-Saharan Africa and the Arab States, May-June 2012*

# Addressing the policy gap

## Pre-conferences, Conferences, Policy Dialogue Forums and context-specific meetings

- *Policy Dialogue Forum on Teacher Challenges for Education for All in India (working title), May 2012*
- *E9 meeting on Teacher Training for Quality Inclusive Education, India, May 2012*
- *Pre-conference seminars, May-June 2012*
- *Conference in Africa, October 2012*

# Addressing the capacity gap

## Support to Member States

- *Phase I: Mali, Guinea, Niger, Uganda, Mozambique*
- *Phase II: to be decided in the second semester*

# Addressing the financing gap

**Global Partnership for Education**

**Task Force**

**Global & regional activities (GRA)**  
Studies on innovative financing mechanisms for teacher-related issues

**Country Level**  
Integration of teacher policies and in education sector plans and sector dialogue





**Thank you for your attention!**